iZotope

nectar™ elements

HELP GUIDE

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Overview

Nectar Elements was created out of a desire to provide engineers, musicians, and other audio professionals with a vocal mixing tool that could provide a great vocal sound with just a few clicks of the mouse. A great deal of time and effort has gone into ensuring that Nectar Elements delivers superior sound quality and an innovative feature set. With multiple Genres and Styles to choose from, Nectar Elements provides everything you need to instantly enhance your vocal tracks. Nectar Elements is based on the original iZotope Nectar plug-in, which offers deeper controls and additional tools for working with vocals. Learn more about the full version of Nectar here.

Key Features

- Over 100 Styles in 12 Genres giving you instant access to a wealth of vocal sounds
- 10 under-the-hood DSP processors including Equalizer, Compressor, De-Esser, Gate, Limiter, Saturation, Pitch Correction, Reverb, Delay, and Doubler
- 7 Equalizer filter shapes for sculpting your vocal tracks
- Simple one-control De-Esser for quickly removing offending sibilance
- Easy to use Gate for removing noise or room tone
- Customized sliders for simple control of all of Nectar Elements' DSP processors
- Customized "Creative" sliders give you unique control tailored to each Style
- Real-time pitch correction for automatically fixing out-of-key notes
- Simple preset system for saving your own adjustments of the included Styles
- History menu for recalling and comparing your settings

Authorization

Each purchased copy of Nectar Elements contains a unique serial. After downloading Nectar Elements directly from iZotope or another re-seller the serial number will be e-mailed along with the link to download the product. The serial number should resemble: SN-NECTARELEMENTS-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX

Launching the Authorization Wizard

The first time you open Nectar Elements, the Authorization Wizard will appear. You can choose to either authorize Nectar Elements or use it in Trial mode for evaluation purposes. Please use your supplied Nectar Elements serial number to fully authorize your product.

Trial vs. Demo Mode

For the first 10 days after installation, Nectar Elements will run in Trial mode, which offers full functionality. After 10 days, Nectar Elements will revert to Demo mode. In Demo mode, Nectar Elements will periodically mute audio output.

Authorizing Your Copy of Nectar Elements Online

After opening Nectar Elements and launching the Authorization Wizard, the following steps will complete the authorization process online:

1. First, click on 'Authorize'.

2. Next, enter the serial number emailed to you. It should look like this:

SN-NECTARELEMENTS-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX

3. You must also enter your name and a valid e-mail address.

Make note of the e-mail address you use to authorize your license. Your license and iZotope account will be linked directly to this e-mail address.

Note: Clicking the 'Advanced' button reveals a set of options that allow you to store your Nectar Elements authorization on a portable hard drive or flash drive. Click here for more information on these options.

4. When you have confirmed that your serial number and e-mail information is accurate, click once more on 'Authorize'.

5. Lastly, click on 'Submit' in order to send your authorization message to the iZotope servers. If the authorization is accepted, click on the 'Finish' button to complete the authorization.

Authorizing Your Copy of Nectar Elements Offline

Some customers choose to keep their audio workstations offline, and a simple offline authorization option has been included. After opening Nectar Elements and launching the Authorization Wizard, the following steps will complete the authorization process offline:

1. When first prompted to authorize Nectar Elements, click on 'Authorize'

2. Next, click on the option for 'Offline Authorization' at the bottom of the authorization window, select "Authorize with iZotope challenge/response" and click next.

3. You will be given a unique Challenge Code that is specific to your computer only. Write down or make a copy of the exact Challenge Code. It will look like this:

IZ-NECTARELEMENTS-XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX

4. Next, using a system with internet access, login to your customer account at the iZotope website: http://www.izotope.com/store/account.asp

5. Click the 'Activate Software with a Serial Number' button, enter your full serial number and click 'Submit'.

6. Select the 'Challenge/Response' option and click on 'Submit'.

7. Read the License Agreement and click "Agree" if you find it agreeable.

8. Now enter your full Challenge Code copied in step 3.

9. After submitting your Challenge Code, you will receive a unique Response Code. The response code will look like this: IZ-NECTARELEMENTS-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX

Write this response code or save a text file with the response code onto a flash drive.

10. Type or paste the Response Code into the text field of Step 3 in the Offline Authorization window.

11. Click ‘Next’ to authorize Nectar Elements.

12. You should now receive a message that your authorization has been successful and may click Finish to begin using Nectar Elements.

iLok Support

Nectar Elements does support iLok. Our plug-ins will be able to detect iLok keys and assets if you already use iLok and PACE software on your system. If you don't already have PACE or iLok, we will not install any PACE or iLok software to your system, and iLok authorizations will be unavailable.

Authorizing Nectar Elements with iLok

1. When first prompted to authorize Nectar Elements, click on 'Authorize'

2. Next, enter the serial number emailed to you. It should look like like this:

SN-NECTARELEMENTS-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX

3. You must also enter your name and a valid e-mail address.

> *Make note of the e-mail address you use to authorize your license. Your license and iZotope account will be linked directly to this e-mail address.*

4. Select 'Use iLok Authorization' and enter your iLok ID.

5. When you have confirmed that all your information is accurate, click once more on 'Authorize'.

6. Lastly, click on 'Submit' in order to send your authorization message to the iZotope servers

7. You will now be instructed to log in to your iLok account and transfer your Nectar Elements license to your iLok.

8. When you have completed this step and have your iLok connected to the computer on which you want to use Nectar Elements, click 'Next'.

9. You should now receive a message that your authorization has been successful and may click Finish to begin using Nectar Elements.

Web Help

Should you encounter any problems during authorization please consult our online portal with additional information:

https://www.izotope.com/support/portal/authorization.asp

Contact Support

Should you not be able to resolve your authorization issue please contact the customer at support@izotope.com.

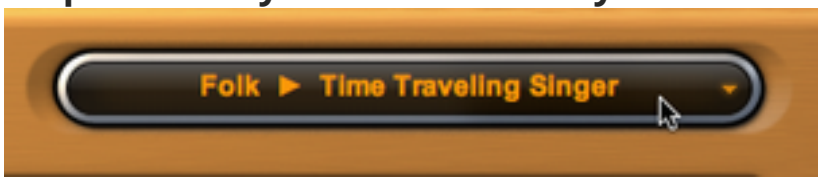
iZotope's highly trained support team is committed to responding to all requests within one (1) business day and frequently respond faster. Please try to explain your problem with as much detail and clarity as possible.

Quickstart

Nectar Elements's Styles are designed to give you a quick starting point for your own projects.

Every vocalist is different so no one preset will always work well for your audio. However we have attempted to provide a wide range of Styles that will help you find a good starting point for your own material.

Step 1: Select your Genre and Style



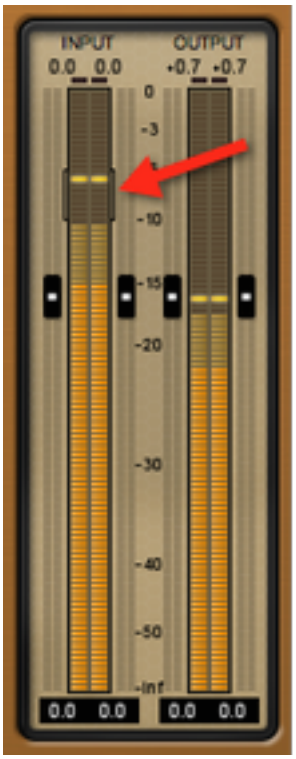
The Genre and Style Selector tells Nectar Elements what style of vocals you're trying to produce, sets the default values for all parameters, and defines the behavior of Nectar Elements's controls.

Step 2: Adjust Styles to Taste

The top row contains controls to modify the selected style. Use them to dial in the sound you are looking for and to experiment with creative variations. These controls change and adapt based on the Style you have loaded.

Step 3: Adjust Tool Settings Accordingly

The controls on the bottom of the screen contain tools for polishing your vocal recording. These controls are always available regardless of the Style you have loaded.



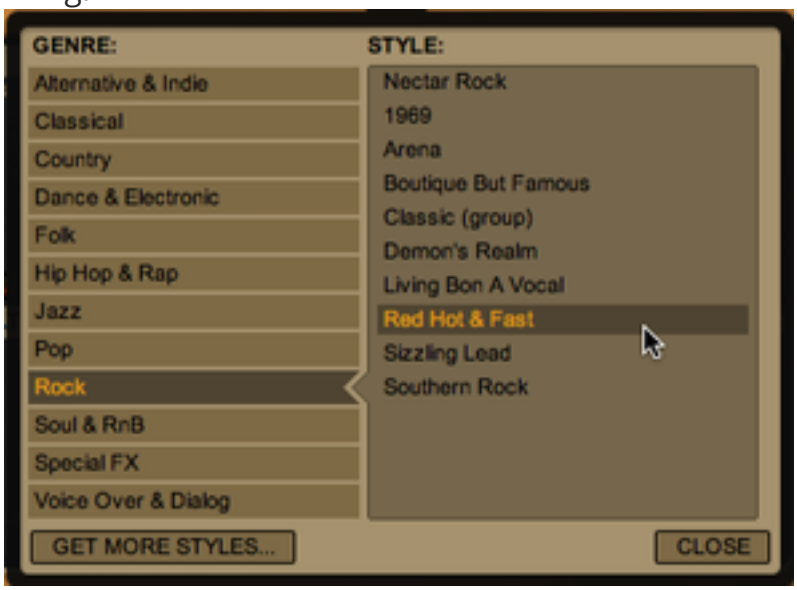
Step 4: Setting Your Input Level

Setting your input level is important when selecting Styles as the Styles will sound drastically different if your input level is too loud or quiet. In order to ensure that you have a good neutral level as a starting point, we recommend setting Nectar Elements's input level so that the input meter is peaking within the recommended range bracket.

Learn more about the Input and Output Gain of Nectar Elements here.

Choosing a Starting Point

Start by listening through several of Nectar Elements's Styles. We've organized Styles into Genre categories that will let you search easily for Styles for every purpose. Because every vocal track is different, we've aimed to give you a lot of starting points so that you can choose the best one for your project. When you've found a Style that has what your track needs, further tweak the Levels, Space and "Creative" block sliders to your liking.



Global Menu

Reset

Clicking the Reset button clears the current working settings and loads Nectar Elements's default state.

History

Clicking the History button opens the History menu which allows you to recall and compares settings and adjustments. Learn more about the History menu here.

Options

Clicking the Options button loads the Option Menu from which you can authorize your copy of Nectar Elements, access additional resources for working with Nectar Elements, adjust visual settings, and more. Learn more about Nectar Elements's Options here.

Help

You may click the Help button at any time to launch this Help Documentation.

Presets

Clicking the Presets button launches the Preset Manager from which you can save your own settings for recall later. Learn more about the Preset Manager here.

Bypass

Clicking the Bypass button will bypass Nectar Elements's processing in your DAW allowing you to compare your vocal track with and without Nectar Elements.

Style Manager

Nectar Elements's Genres and Styles are designed to allow you to take full advantage of the underlying signal processing in the most concise and creative way possible. Click on the Style selector at the very top of Nectar Elements's interface in order to select your desired Genre and Style from the drop down picker that appears.

When a Genre and Style is chosen, Nectar Elements's Main View will be configured to provide you with the correct settings, ranges, modules and parameters in order to get a great vocal sound within that particular Style.

> ***Note**: You can also use the arrow keys on your keyboard to scroll Up and Down between Styles and Genres. This can be especially helpful to audition the direction different styles will take your vocals.*

You can then adjust your Style to taste using the sliders available in Nectar Elements's Main View.

Each Style will not only contain a different default sound, but also different customized sliders to adjust in Nectar Elements's Main View. If the default sound for any particular Style does not fit your audio exactly, adjusting the sliders in the Main View can help to get you closer to your desired sound.

Once you have the Style that works well with your audio, you can click ‘Close’ in the bottom right corner of the Genre/Style drop down picker in order to return to the Main View.

Interface

Nectar Elements's Main View provides all of the intuitive controls necessary to enhance your vocal takes for any given vocal genre or style.

Basic Operation
Start by selecting a Genre and Style using the large button at the top of Nectar Elements's interface. From here, you can adjust your settings to taste.

Modules
Nectar Elements's Main View presents you with multiple modules and controls to clean up as well as bring out your incoming audio.

> ***Note***: *Depending on the chosen style, the "Creative" module's controls may be hooked up to processing that would be bypassed by the Levels or Space module power button. When this is the case, the module power button will not be displayed for the "Creative" module.*

You can engage or bypass processing in the different modules by using the power buttons in the upper right corner of each block in the Main View.

***Note**: While holding the Alt/Option key, clicking on the orange power buttons will temporarily bypass all modules except for the one module that was clicked on. This allows you to audition the effect of one module without hearing the effect of the others. While holding the Alt/Option key, clicking again on the module power icon will re-enable the modules that were originally bypassed.*

Enhance Sliders

Re-configured depending on your chosen Genre and Style, use these modules to bring out and sculpt your incoming vocals to fit your session and style.

Levels

Use the Preamp and Loudness sliders to adjust the settings and timbres created at the beginning of your vocal chain.

Increase the Preamp control in order to bring up the initial gain of your vocals as well as add in extra color to fit your chosen style. Depending on the Style, this can be achieved by Saturating the signal with certain harmonic profiles, adjusting certain aspects of the EQ contour, or with Style appropriate compression controls.

The Loudness slider is most often used to bring up the overall comparative loudness of your incoming vocal audio. In most styles, this is done by adjusting varied compression parameters and other dynamics controls such as Limiting in order to even out your audio's dynamic range.

Space

Whether with added Reverb or Delay, the Space module's controls can help to add depth and shine to your dry incoming audio. The particular flavor and timbre of the spatial processing that is added will be tailored to suit the Genre and Style you have chosen.

Use the controls to adjust how much processing will be added, the size of that processing, and how dark or bright the added space will be.

Creative Sliders

Unique to each Genre and Style, the "Creative" module of Nectar Elements's Main View can represent any number of different audio processes, all designed to further enhance or bring your particular style in a new direction. Using combinations of doubling processing, EQ contours, creative delays and echoes, extra dynamics controls, or varied saturation profiles, the "Creative" controls act as a complement to the Levels and Space modules. Here are some examples of Creative Sliders of some Styles:

Tool Sliders

Use these modules to clean up and prepare your incoming audio for your session.

De-Esser

Nectar Elements's De-Esser is a powerful tool for controlling sibilance on vocal takes as well as other high frequency problems. The Ess slider will allow you to define the amount of De-Essing that will be applied to your incoming audio. Nectar Elements's De-Esser will apply the same amount of Ess reduction regardless of the incoming audio level and as such, there is no need for threshold or level based controls.

Controlling Sibilance

Nectar Elements's De-Esser performs its processing independent of the incoming audio level. Whether your vocals are loud or soft, the amount of De-Essing taking place will be the same.

This is performed by analyzing the current level of your vocal take, and how loud it is in proportion to the audio above the specified frequency parameter. If a large difference is detected due to a sibilance, the amount of Ess gain reduction will be applied.

Ess Slider

The Ess slider controls the amount of gain reduction that is applied to the incoming vocal take when a sibilance is detected. This gain reduction is applied quickly and transparently to the entire incoming vocal take, instead of simply reducing the gain of a particular set of frequencies. This allows for much more natural sibilant reduction and prevents strong processing from creating the effect of the singer having a lisp.

Gate

You can raise the Threshold of Nectar Elements's Gate in order to reduce the gain of any low level signals in your audio. The Gate can be thought of as performing the opposite task as the compressor. It takes program material below the threshold and reduces it by a factor determined by the ratio.

This can also be particularly useful when there is bleed in your vocal audio - noise in the room not coming from the vocalist. When the vocalist is singing or speaking, the signal is allowed to pass untouched. When the vocalist stops singing or speaking however, the ambient noise in the room is gated or reduced in gain.

Threshold Slider (dB)
The Threshold slider sets the level where the dynamics processing takes place. As the threshold is increased, more of the signal will be reduced.

Pitch Correction

Use these controls to adjust the correction speed as well as the scale and root note that your incoming vocals will be corrected to. When the Pitch Correction module is enabled the incoming vocals will be corrected to the scale and root note specified in the appropriate drop-down menus.

> ***Note**: The pitch correction module uses lookahead which introduces a significant latency into the audio signal. Learn more about delay compensation here.*

Correction Speed (ms)
You can use the Correction Speed control in order to control how quickly your incoming vocals will be snapped to any particular note. Set your Correction Speed to 0ms in order to achieve robotic immediate pitch snapping, or use values from 30-60ms to obtain more natural transparent results.

Root Note
Here you can define the root note or key that your vocal takes are in.

Scale

Chromatic
A scale in which every note of every octave will be available as a pitch your vocals could be corrected to. If you are not sure of the scale that your vocal takes are in, be sure to set your scale type to Chromatic in order to get the best results.

> ***Note**: When in chromatic mode, as every pitched note is available for pitch correction, the defined root note has no effect and thus is greyed out.*

Major / Minor / Custom
Here you can select to snap your incoming vocal pitches to either a Major, Minor or Custom scale of your choosing based upon your specified Root Note.

When defining a Custom scale, a keyboard dialog will appear. Click on the notes you wish to enable as options for pitch correction. When notes are enabled for Pitch Correction, they will turn gold (for White keys) or dark gold (for black keys). When you initially choose the Custom scale, all of the notes on the keyboard are enabled. Click on keys to omit them from the Custom scale. Disabled notes will show up as White (for white keys) and Black (for black keys).

Equalizer

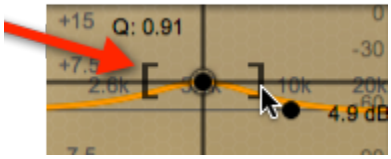
Nectar Elements's versatile EQ allows you to add warmth and character with analog-modeled filters, and precisely boost and cut frequencies with its helpful frequency spectrum overlay.

Adjust any of Nectar Elements's EQ nodes in order to shape your sound to fit your mix. Click and drag to alter the frequency and gain of any node, and use the node brackets or the mouse-wheel to adjust the Q of that particular node.

Frequency and Gain

The black circles mark each of the five EQ nodes. You can adjust an EQ band by clicking on a node and dragging the crosshairs to change the frequency and gain of the band.

Q/Bandwidth



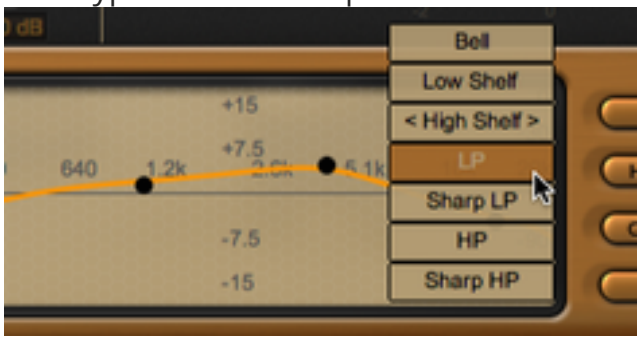
You can adjust the Q or bandwidth of the EQ by clicking and dragging on the "handles" on the side of the band, to widen the band. If you have a wheel mouse, you can use the mouse wheel to widen/narrow a selected band.

Selecting Filter Shapes

Nectar Elements provides the ability to set the type or shape of any of the five EQ nodes. Any node can be one of the following shapes:

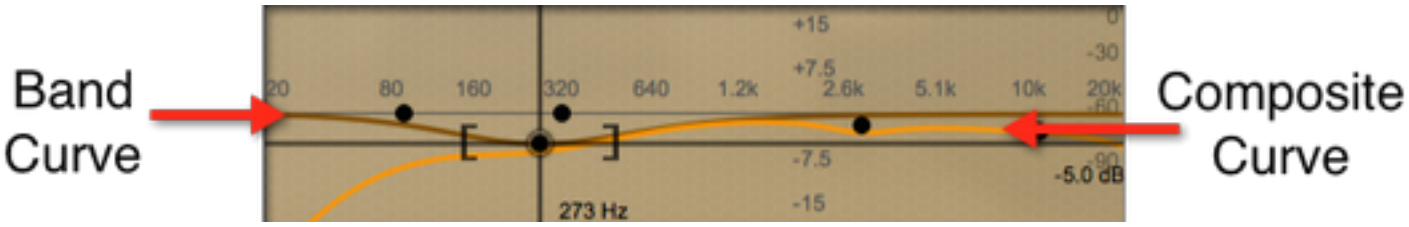
- Bell
- Low Shelf
- High Shelf
- LP (Low Pass)
- Sharp LP (Sharp Low Pass)
- HP (High Pass)
- Sharp HP (Sharp High Pass)

To change the shape of a particular node, right-click on a node and select a filter type from the drop down menu.



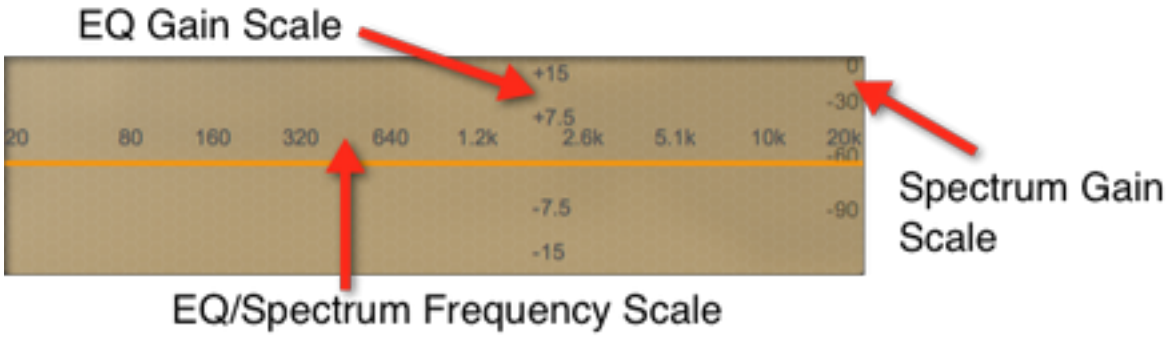
Visuals

As you adjust a band you will see two EQ curves. The bright yellow curve is the composite of all EQ bands while the darker yellow curve shows the EQ curve of the selected band.



A spectrum is overlaid by default on the EQ module for visual feedback of the mix. You can turn off the spectrum to conserve CPU or if you just don't want to see it using the Options screen. You can also set options such as Spectrum Type, Show peak hold, etc. These are available in the ”Spectrum” section of the “Visual” tab in the Options menu.

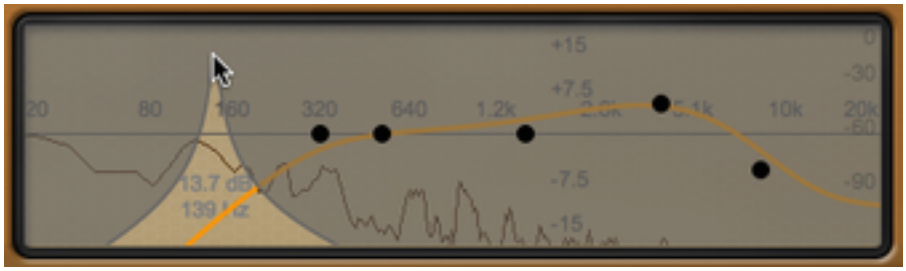
In the background you'll see the gain scale for the EQ down the center in a light grey color. You'll see the scale for the spectrum in gray down the right side of the EQ display.



***Note**: The scales for the EQ and spectrum are different, by design. If they were made to match, you wouldn't see enough of the spectrum for it to be useful. The frequency scale in grey applies to both the EQ and the spectrum.*

Alt-Solo

If you hold down the Alt key and click on the spectrum, you have an "audio magnifying glass" that lets you hear only the frequencies that are under the mouse cursor, without affecting your actual EQ settings.

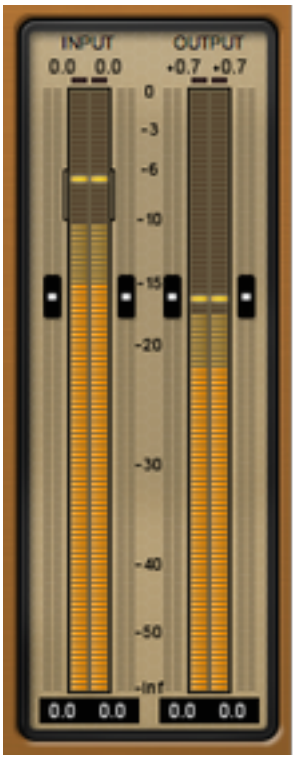


This is useful for pinpointing the location of a frequency in the mix without changing your actual EQ bands. Releasing the mouse button returns the sound to the actual EQ.

Additional Tips using Nectar Elements's Equalizer

- If you hold down the Shift key and drag an EQ band, the EQ band will be "locked" in the direction that you're dragging. So if you just want to change the gain without affecting the frequency (or vice-versa) just hold the Shift Key while you drag.
- If you've chosen to display an averaging spectrum or a peak hold spectrum (using the Visual Options screen) you can reset the peak hold or the averaging by clicking on the spectrum.
- Right click on the spectrum to bring up an options dialog to control the spectrum display.

Input and Output Gain



The panel on the right side of the interface is the main input/output section for Nectar Elements. This is used for setting and monitoring gain levels going in and out of the Nectar Elements plug-in.

Setting Input and Output Gain
You can adjust the input or output gain by sliding the black faders with your mouse, either by clicking and dragging or clicking and using the wheel of a wheel mouse.

***Note**: Hold the CTRL/Command key for finer resolution while adjusting the input/output gain sliders.*

Double-click to Reset Faders
Double clicking on either input fader will reset the Input faders to 0 dB. Double-clicking on either output fader will reset the Output faders to 0 dB.

History Menu

The History menu is a unique and powerful feature for comparing settings in Nectar Elements. To access the History list, click on the History button.

As you tweak controls, each movement is captured and displayed in the History list. To go back and listen to a previous setting, simply click on the list at the point you want to audition. The changes that you've undone will show up in a lighter color.

Clear
You can also press the Clear button to clear the History list at any time.

Close
If you close the History window, processing resumes from the point you had last selected, so you can continue building on the History list from a earlier point.

A,B,C,D
You can assign up to four points in the History list to A, B, C and D buttons. To do this, select the point in the list you want to capture, and click on the 'Set' button below the A, B, C or D button. Clicking on the appropriate button will then recall the setting assigned to that button.

History
When you exit Nectar Elements, the History list and any settings assigned to the A, B, C or D buttons will be saved so that the next time you start Nectar Elements, the list will be remembered so you can pick up where you left off.

Preset Menu

Different from the defined Genres and Styles at the top of Nectar Elements's interface, Presets serve as snapshots to save all current settings, slider values as well as the selected Genre and Style in your current instance of Nectar Elements.

Click on the Presets button in the bottom right of Nectar Elements's interface to launch the preset selector.

> ***Note**: You can also use the directional arrows on your keyboard to scroll through and audition multiple presets.*

Adding and Removing

Use the corresponding Add and Rename buttons in order to save all of Nectar Elements's settings into a preset file of your desired name.

If you would like to update the settings of an existing preset to Nectar Elements's current state, simply click Add and re-save the preset to your directory using the same name. You can then click Yes when prompted if you would like to overwrite the original preset.

Use the Delete button to remove the currently highlighted preset.

Transferring Presets

Similar to Nectar Elements's Styles, Presets are stored as '.XML' files inside of your Preset directory. These '.XML' files will be named and categorized as they appear inside of your Nectar Elements Preset window.

Backing up these presets is as simple as copying files. Just browse to the location of your presets, select the directory or individual '.XML' files you would like to backup, and copy them onto your backup drive or location.

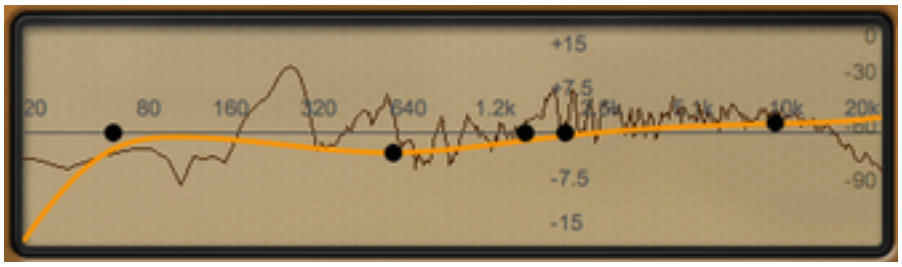
To restore any presets that have already been backed up, simply copy the desired presets back into your Nectar Preset directory, and on the next instantiation, Nectar will recognize their presence and display them in the internal Preset window.

Preset Directories

Windows Users
C:\Documents and Settings\<your username>\My Documents\iZotope Nectar\Presets

Mac Users
<username>/Documents/iZotope Nectar/Presets

Spectrum

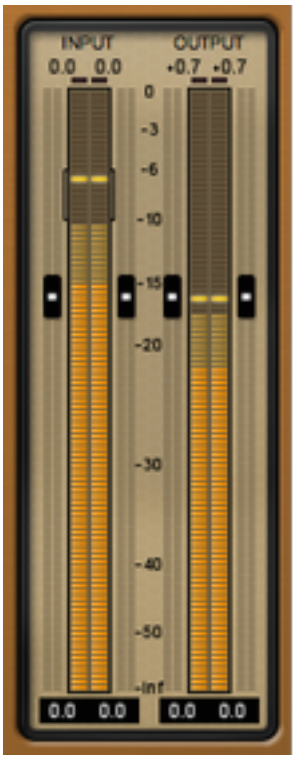


The spectrum provides a real time display of the frequencies of the mix. Nectar Elements can show both peak hold and real-time spectra, so users can see both a peak and running spectrum simultaneously in the display.

By default, only a real-time averaging spectrum will be shown in the Equalizer.

Options
You can set options for the spectrum by accessing the Visuals Option tab or right-clicking (under OS X you can also Ctrl-click) the spectrum and selecting "Spectrum Options" from the context menu.

Input and Output Meters



Nectar Elements's level meters display the input and output level for the left and right channels as your audio enters and exits Nectar Elements. You can set options for the Input/Output meters by opening the 'Visual' tab of the Options menu. The available options for calibrating Nectar Elements's I/O meters are listed below.

Peak
The Peak meter is a fast meter that measures the instantaneous maximum sample value of your signal. If you are tracking the peaks for possible clipping, the Peak meter is an appropriate choice.

RMS
RMS (Root Mean Square) is a software-based implementation of an analog style level meter. The RMS meter displays the average level calculated over a short window of time. The result is a meter that is appropriate if you are interested in tracking the overall loudness.

RMS + Peak
This is a combined RMS and Peak meter. This meter displays a lower bar representing the average level (RMS) and a higher bar representing peak level. There is also a moving line above the bar representing the most recent peak level or peak hold.

Peak Hold
By default, the meters will temporarily hold the peak values of your incoming audio. Peak holding as well as the amount of time that peaks are held can both be edited in the Options menu> 'Visual' tab> 'Input/Output' section.

Clipping
Above the meter is a red LED that serves as a clipping indicator. If the level exceeds 0 dB at any point, this LED will light up and remain lit until you double click anywhere on the LED itself.

CPU Optimization

Unlike many single task plug-ins, Nectar harnesses the power of 10 DSP processors in one plug-in. Nectar Elements performs a significant number of calculations when running.

The combination of 64-bit processing, multiple DSP processors and real time meters dictates that it requires more CPU processing than some plug-ins.

Optimizing your CPU
If you're not using modules for processing, you should be sure to bypass them to conserve CPU power.

Try changing the buffer size and/or latency setting in your host application. When buffers are too high (latencies are too large), meters may update slowly however less stress will be placed on your CPU. As buffers become very small (latencies are very low), Nectar Elements will consume more CPU.

You can also disable meters in their option screens. Right click on any meter to bring up the options screen for that meter.

Buffer Size Viewer

The Buffer Size Viewer dialog lets you inspect the buffer sizes which your host application is using.

If you are using Nectar Elements at low buffer sizes, you may experience unusually high CPU usage. Some host applications make it very easy to see what your buffer sizes are, but it can be more difficult to determine in others. For that reason, Nectar Elements provides this dialog to let you find out exactly what buffer sizes are being sent to the plug-in.

To use this dialog, simply launch it by clicking the View Buffers button in the 'Host' tab of the Options screen. Then use the following controls:

Captured buffer sizes
This list-box shows the buffers you have captured thus far. The number on the left is the input buffer size (the host applications buffer size), and the number on the right is the output buffer size.

> ***Note**: The input and output buffer sizes will be equal in Pro Tools, VST, and AU versions of Nectar Elements, but in the DirectX version if delay compensation is enabled then the sizes may differ.*

Start/Stop
Push Start to begin capturing buffer sizes. Now each time a buffer is sent to the plugin, it will be added to the list of captured buffer sizes for you to see.

Push Stop to stop capturing buffer sizes. Note that buffers are sent in very rapid succession to the plug-in, and after 100 buffer sizes are captured, the capturing will automatically be stopped.

Clear
Clears the list of captured buffer sizes.

Copy
Copies the list of gathered buffer sizes to the clipboard, useful for pasting into a support e-mail if necessary.

Automation

Automation allows you to specify changes to sliders over the duration of a mix. You can automate any Nectar Elements parameter using host applications which support effects automation.

Using Automation in Nectar Elements
The implementation and specifics of automation are dependent on the host application, so please refer to the documentation of the host app for setting up an automated mix. In general, though, you insert Nectar Elements as an ordinary effect on a track, then in the track view of the host app, assign automation envelopes to it.

These envelopes control how Nectar Elements parameters are changed over the course of the mix. In this case, most of your "tweaking" is done in the track view of the host app, dragging curves and envelopes as opposed to changing controls in Nectar Elements.

When you automate a control from the track view, you can see the control on the Nectar Elements interface move under the control of the host application. We purposely don't update the position of the control as often as we could. It takes CPU to redraw controls and it takes CPU to process audio. So we update the drawing of the control less frequently. Therefore, it may look like the control is moving in steps, but rest assured that the audio is being processed smoothly.

When automating in a track view with envelopes, but working mainly with the Nectar Elements interface, we found it helpful to be able to "see through" Nectar Elements so you can monitor the meters and controls but also see the track view and automation curves behind Nectar Elements UI. So we provide an Opacity slider in the ‘Visual’ tab of the Options menu. This allows you to see through Nectar Elements to monitor both what Nectar Elements is doing and what is happening with the automation curves.

> ***Note**: The Opacity option is not available in all host applications, and it does require more CPU than a standard "opaque" plug-in if you set the Opacity to less than 100%.*

Delay Compensation

Some plug-in configurations, especially those using pitch correction, require high latencies from your host application. During playback, this can result in a delay or offset to a single track's output, and can sometimes put a track out of sync with the rest of a mix. During mix-downs and edits, this can cause a gap or silence to appear and displace the beginning of the output.

There are a couple of ways to fix this problem:

1. Try enabling the "Delay Compensation" feature in the plug-in Options screen, under the General tab. You can access the Options screen by pressing the "Options" button at the lower-right corner of the plug-in's touchscreen.

In compatible host applications, this will allow you to use a plug-in's more latency-intensive settings and DSP without delaying or offsetting your tracks. It corrects, or compensates for, the offset created by latency in both playback and mix-down.

2. The delay compensation freeze is designed to help in certain hosts that don't completely support delay compensation. In general, some hosts only check a plug-in's latency when the plug-in first starts up or opens.

The freeze feature will allow you to freeze the delay that Nectar is reporting to the host. This way, you can close and reopen Nectar, and the host will have the correct reading.

To find out how much delay has been imposed by your plug-in, enter your plug-in's Options screen, and under the Host tab, click on Delay Compensation. The delay contributed by your plug-in will be listed under "Total System Delay," and will be given in both samples and milliseconds.

> ***Note**: Delay Compensation will have no effect in some host applications, and enabling it may cause output problems in others. If you begin to hear regular "clicks" or "pops" in your output immediately after enabling this feature, it may be incompatible with your current host application.*

Keyboard and Mouse Support

Turn Keyboard Support On or Off
You can turn Keyboard Shortcuts On or Off from the General Options menu. Keyboard support must be set to Full for all Keyboard shortcuts to be available. Available options include Full (full keyboard support), Minimal (only TAB, arrow keys, and ENTER), or None (Keyboard shortcuts turned off).

Alt/Opt+click
If you Alt/Opt+click on the ON of a module on the faceplate, that module is made active (on) and all other modules are bypassed.

If you Alt/Opt+click on a module in the preset system that module is made active and the rest inactive.

Alt/Opt+clicking on most other controls will reset them to their default value.

Wheel Mouse Notes
If you have a wheel mouse, you can adjust most controls (I/O gain, sliders, etc.) by simply positioning the mouse cursor over the control and rolling the wheel. Hold CTRL to move in smaller increments and SHIFT to move in larger increments. If the wheel has no effect, try clicking on the plugin to make sure Nectar has the keyboard focus.

In the Equalizer, you can adjust the Q of a selected band or bands with the wheel.

In the History screen, you can use the wheel to scroll through the History list.

Copy/Paste Support
Right-click (under OS X you can also Ctrl-click) on any slider to bring up a context menu allowing you to copy and paste its value. You can copy/paste between sliders, even if the sliders are in different instances of the plugin. You can also copy/paste between a slider and a text editor such as Notepad or TextEdit in order to see the slider's value to a much higher precision than the plugin displays.

Meters
You can reset the peaks or averaging of the spectrum by clicking on the spectrum.

You can reset a meter's peak indication by clicking on it. You can also reset a level meter's clipping indicator by clicking on the clipping indicator (the red "over" light at the top).

Available Shortcut Keys (PC/MAC)

Main	
Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + 1 through 4	Displays options dialogs: 1: General Options 2: Spectrum Options 3: Meter Options 4: EQ/Compressors/Pitch Options **Note**: Under Mac OS X, 'Cmd+Shift+3' and 'Cmd+Shift+4' are taken by the operating system and cannot be used to open Nectar Elements's Meter and EQ Options windows.
Ctrl/Cmd + P	Toggles Preset Manager
Ctrl/Cmd + B	Toggles bypass for all Nectar processing.
EQ	
Alt/Opt + click	Apply a bandpass filter at the mouse cursor to "solo" the frequencies under the cursor
Ctrl/Cmd + click (Windows) Command + click (OS X)	Selects multiple EQ bands to adjust them as one group
Shift + click	Constrain mouse movements (dragging an EQ band) in either the vertical or horizontal direction.

Double click	Double click on a band to reset it to its default position.
Left/Right arrow keys	Adjust the frequency of a selected band or bands. Use with Shift key for larger increments.
Up/Down arrow keys	Adjust the gain of a selected band or bands. Use with Shift key for larger increments.
Alt/Opt + up/down arrow keys	Changes the fiilter type (bell, lowpass, highpass, etc.) for the selected band.
Alt/Opt + left/right arrow keys	Select the next or previous EQ band.
Ctrl/Cmd + left/ right arrow keys	Adjust the Q of a selected band or bands. Use with Shift key for larger increments.
Misc	
Ctrl/Cmd + Z	Undo the last change made to a control.
Ctrl/Cmd + Y	Redo the last change made to a control.
Alt/Opt + 0 through 9 or Ctrl/ Cmd + Alt/Opt + 0 through 9	Sets the opacity/transparency of the Nectar UI. 0 is fully opaque (not transparent at all). After that, 1 through 9 set increasing levels of opacity.
Esc	Cancels dialog boxes.
F1	Launch help
F3	Toggle options dialog visibility

F5	Toggle History visibility
F6	Resets active panel

Options Menu

General Options

Welcome	
Show Quickstart	Replays the quickstart guide that walks you through Nectar Elements the first time you instantiate the plug-in
Get More Styles	Routes you to the website where additional Nectar Styles can be downloaded
View Tutorials	Routes you to the website where you may view tutorial videos that assist you in learning to use Nectar Elements
Try Nectar Full	Routes you to the website where you may download a free 10-day trial of the full version of Nectar
Authorization	
Check for updates	Selects the frequency with which Nectar Elements checks for version updates. Choose between daily, weekly, monthly, and never.
Check now	Instantly checks if your version of Nectar Elements is up to date
Remove Authorization	Removes the current authorization of Nectar Elements
More Information	Directs you to the supporting documentation for authorization

Visual Options

Graphics	
Enable Meters	Allows you to quickly turn on/off all meters
Show Tooltips	When enabled this allows informational notes to appear when the cursor/pointer is hovering on top of the features' controls

Brightness	Allows you to control the overall brightness of the Nectar Elements interface. This allows you adjust the look of the UI to be more viewable on various monitors and in various venues.
Opacity	Allows you to control the opacity or transparency of the Nectar Elements interface. The slider will be disabled in host applications that do not support this feature.
Spectrum	
Enable EQ Spectrum	Turns on or off the spectrum analzyer in the Equalizer
Show Musical Units	Allows you to display frequency labels as musical notes in addition to Hz in the Equalizer's spectrum analyzer
Show Peak Hold	Toggles whether Nectar Elements displays and holds the peaks of the spectrum in the Equalizer
Spectrum Type	Lets you select between three types of spectrums: **Linear**: a continuous line connecting the calculated points of the spectrum **1/3 octave**: splits the spectrum into bars with a width of 1/3 of an octave. Although the spectrum is split into discrete bands, this option can provide excellent resolution at lower frequencies. **Critical bands**: splits the spectrum into bands that correspond to how we hear, or more specifically how we differentiate between sounds of different frequencies. Each band represents sounds that are considered "similar" in frequency.
Peak Hold Time (ms)	You can click on the Peak Hold time to select between specific hold times in milliseconds or Infinite, where the peak is held indefinitely. You can reset the peaks by clicking on the spectrum.
Input/Output	
Show Peak Hold	Turns on or off the peak hold display for the level meters
Type	Allows you to set the type of metering used for Nectar Elements's I/O meters. Options include RMS, Peak and RMS+Peak.
Scale	For RMS, Peak, and RMS+Peak you can choose between dB (linear) and dB (non-linear).

Peak Hold Time (ms)	If peak hold is on, this allows you to cycle through different peak hold times. The choices are 5 ms, 250 ms, 500 ms, 1000 ms, 5000 ms, and infinite. If set to infinite, the peak value(s) will be held until you single click on the peak value readout.
Integration Time	This setting only applies if the level meter is set to RMS. It lets you specify the integration time for the RMS calculation. In most RMS meters, the integration time is set to around 300 msec.

Host Options

Host	
Delay Compensation	Using some of Nectar Elements's more CPU intensive settings and algorithms may result in a delay of the signal. That time causes a delay when listening or mixing down. Fortunately, many applications provide "delay compensation" which is a means for Nectar to tell the application it has delayed the signal, and the host application should automatically "undo" the delay on the track. If your host application supports delay compensation, enable this option. If your application doesn't support Nectar Elements's delay compensation feature, or skips/stutters with this option turned on, you can manually correct the delay offset in the host application (i.e. manually edit out the short delay of silence). See Delay Compensation for more info.
View Buffers	This launches the View Buffers dialog, which lets you inspect the buffer sizes which your host application is using. See Buffer Sizes documentation for more info.
Host Sync	This launches the Host Sync Viewer window which displays information about your current session/host application including Tempo, Transport State, Time signature, etc.
Keyboard Support	Keyboard support must be set to full for all Keyboard shortcuts to be available. Available options include Full (full keyboard support), Minimal (only TAB, arrow keys, and ENTER), or None (Keyboard shortcuts turned off).
Low Latency RTAS Processing	This option only appears in the RTAS version and by default will be disabled. When selected this option will help reduce latency in Pro Tools, but will cause higher CPU usage.

iZotope Customer Support

How to purchase the full version of Nectar Elements

If you are using the demo version of Nectar Elements and would like the full version, you can purchase Nectar Elements direct from the iZotope online store: http://www.izotope.com/products/audio/nectar/
Once your purchase is complete you will be sent an e-mail confirmation and a full version serial number that can be used to fully authorize your current installation of Nectar Elements.

iZotope Customer Support Policy

iZotope is happy to provide professional technical support to all registered users absolutely free of charge. We also offer valuable pre-sales technical support to customers who may be interested in purchasing an iZotope product. Before contacting iZotope support, you can search our Product Knowledgebase to see if the solution to your problem has already been published.
http://www.izotope.com/support/center

How to contact iZotope for Technical Support

For additional help with Nectar Elements, please check out the support pages on our web site at http://www.izotope.com/support or contact our customer support department at support@izotope.com.
iZotope's highly trained support team is committed to responding to all requests within one (1) business day and frequently respond faster. Please try to explain your problem with as much detail and clarity as possible. This will ensure our ability to solve your problem accurately, the first time around. Please include all system specs and the build/version of Nectar Elements that you are using.
Once your support request is submitted, you should automatically receive a confirmation email from iZotope support. If you do not receive this email within a few minutes please check your spam folder and make sure our responses are not getting blocked. To prevent this from happening please add support@izotope.com to your list of allowed email addresses.

International Distribution

Support is also available from our international distributors worldwide, for any customers who purchased their iZotope products through a certified iZotope distributor. Check with your local distributor for their availability. If you would like help locating your local distributor please contact iZotope support: http://www.izotope.com/support

Thanks for using Nectar Elements!
- the iZotope team